

Application No. 10/628,787
Amdt. dated February 10, 2005
Reply to Restriction Requirement of Jan. 6, 2005

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 25-51 are pending in this Application. In the Office Action mailed on March 31, 2004, the Examiner requested the claims be restricted to one (1) of three (3) inventions that include:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to an anti-adhesion patch, classified in class 435, subclass 178;
- II. Claims 25 and 27-30, drawn to a method of preventing adhesion between issues during surgery, classified in class 424, subclass 423; and
- III. Claims 31-34, drawn to a method of enhancing wound healing or tissue repair, classified in class 424, subclass 445.

Applicant respectfully addresses the basis for the Examiner's restriction below.

Restriction/Election

The Examiner requested that the claims be restricted to one of three inventions. Applicant hereby provisionally elects *with traverse* Group I—claims 1-9, drawn to an anti-adhesion patch and withdraws claims 25 and 27-34.

Traversal is based on the fact that a thorough search of the subject matter of claims 25 and 27-30 as well as claims 31-34 would necessarily include all art classifications 424 and 435 cited by the Examiner. As such, examination of claims 25 and 27-34 on the merits would impose no additional burden on the Patent Office. *See* MPEP 803.

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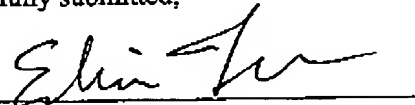
Conclusion

In light of the remarks and arguments presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in the Application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and allowance of the pending claims is therefore respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, or if further clarification is required, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: February 10, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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